

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A collapsible animal container, comprising:
 - (a) a flexible material housing comprising a top wall, a bottom wall, a pair of end walls, and a pair of sidewalls;
 - (b) a pair of support members in the housing, with each support member positioned adjacent an opposing wall of the housing, and each support member having a peripheral shape substantially corresponding to the opposing walls of the housing against which each support member is positioned; and
 - (c) at least one strut secured between the support members to maintain the opposing support members in a separated position and to support the housing.
2. (Currently Amended) A ~~flexible~~-collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, with the support member comprising a rigid panel.
3. (Currently Amended) A ~~flexible~~-collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, with the support member comprising a peripheral frame.
4. (Currently Amended) A ~~flexible~~-collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, further comprising a door in at least one of the end walls and the sidewalls.
5. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 2, with the door comprising a mesh material.
6. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, further comprising at least one window in at least one of the sidewalls and the end walls.

7. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 6, with the at least one window comprising a mesh material.

8. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, wherein the rigid panels are integral with the housing.

9. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, the sidewalls comprising the pair of rigid panels.

10. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, the end walls comprising the pair of rigid panels.

11. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, the top wall and the bottom wall comprising the pair of rigid panels.

12. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, further comprising at least one of the sidewalls and the bottom walls are acutely angled to the bottom wall.

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~flexible~~ collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, with the at least one strut comprising a rod having end caps secured to each end of the rod.

14. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 13, the rod comprising a telescoping rod.

15. (Withdrawn) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 13, with the at least one end cap comprising a telescoping end cap.

16. (Withdrawn) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 13, at least one end cap comprising a extendable threaded end cap.

17. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, the at least one strut comprising a rod having end cap secured to the rod at a first end of the rod and a hinge secured to the rod at a second end of the rod, the hinge attached to at least one of a rigid panel and a wall to allow the rod to pivot.

18. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 17, the end cap comprising a telescoping end cap.

19. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 17, the end cap comprising a extendable threaded end cap.

20. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, further comprising at least one strut brace secured to the housing to secure the strut.

21. (Original) A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 20, the strut brace comprising a peelable fastener.

22. (Original) A collapsible animal container, comprising
a means for housing an animal;
a means for supporting the means for housing; and
a means for separating the means for supporting.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for transporting an animal, comprising the steps of:
providing a collapsible animal container, comprising a flexible material housing comprising a floor, a ceiling and opposing sidewalls with a closable opening for access in at least one of the sidewalls, a pair of rigid panels within the housing, the rigid panels being collapsible toward one another, and at least one struts between the rigid panels supporting the housing;
placing the flexible collapsible animal container within a vehicle; and
placing an animal within the flexible collapsible animal container.